

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested, in view of the following remarks.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the objection to claim 9. Claim 9 refers to claim 5 and thereby incorporates all of its elements. Claim 9 further limits claim 5 by further specifying what happens when the minimal rotational speed is reached. There does not appear to be anything inconsistent with claim 5. Therefore, it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the informality cited by the Office, claim 2 has been amended to remove the narrower temperature ranges. The narrower ranges are now recited in new claims 11 and 12.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-10 as being unpatentable over DE 3417196 A1 ("OLS"). In the comments below, references are to the English language translation of this document. Claim 1 of the present application recites filling two cavities, allowing the product to expand outside its cavity, and moving the two cavities opposite one another. Applicants submit that the Office's assertion that OLS discloses this process is not correct.

Firstly, the Office points to no teaching in OLS of a process wherein two separate cavities are filled before they are brought together. The 2nd sentence of the abstract states that "*the extrudate is only extruded at the instant the mould closes or into an already closed mould....*" Claim 1 states that "*the extrudate emerging from the extruder nozzle is only extruded in to the moulding cavity of the mould situated there at any*

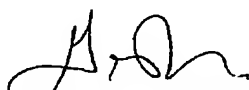
given [time?] as the moulds are closing..." This could hardly be said to be a teaching that two cavities are filled and at least one permitted to expand.

Secondly, the Office points to no teaching in OLS of a process wherein the product is allowed to expand outside its cavity. On page 2, beginning the 3rd paragraph, on pages 5-8 there is some discussion of expansion, but again the Office points to no teaching of filling a cavity, permitting the product to expand, and then pressing the cavity contents against each other.

Thus OLS does not teach or suggest all the limitations of claim 1. The Office points to no teaching by Hui which would remedy the deficiencies of OLS. Therefore, the Office has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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